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For Immediate Release...

Corrections News

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DOC Receives Elaine Aber Humanitarian Award for Reentry Efforts

Missouri Department of Corrections (DOC) Reentry Manager Tina Waldron received the Elaine Aber Humanitarian Award for the DOC's ongoing commitment to the Missouri Reentry Process. The award was given by the Missouri Association For Social Welfare (MASW) on November 4 at its 111th conference at Lake of the Ozarks.

"We are so grateful to the Missouri Association for Social welfare for recognizing the work of the Missouri Reentry Process," Waldron said. "We strive to coordinate state and local resources to prepare offenders to successfully reintegrate into their communities as productive, taxpaying citizens."

She noted that the DOC understands and embraces its role in the institutions and in the community to support the successful transition of offenders into communities across Missouri, however, this is work the department cannot do alone.

"Because of our partnerships in local communities and with other state agencies we have had the opportunity to be innovative in improving the transition process, and providing the structure and support people need to change their lives," she said. "This work is truly a collaborative effort and the dedication and commitment each of these partners has displayed has played a large role in the success of the Missouri Reentry Process."

The Elaine Aber Humanitarian Award was created by the MASW State Board in 2001 to honor Mrs. Aber's long-time work in social justice. She was a member of MASW for 45 years. The award is given to a person or organization who has contributed to the mission of the MASW through education, research, policy development and/ or advocacy.

"MASW has worked for more than a century for policies and programs that provide opportunities for improved health and welfare of individual Missourians as well as the community as a whole," said Bob Quinn, executive director of MASW. "The Missouri Reentry Process is a successful example of such a program, making our state and its communities better and safer by providing needed assistance to individuals reentering those communities from the corrections system."

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